

OLC 78-1033/3

28 March 1978

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED] Chairman  
Intelligence Definitions Working Group

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FROM: [REDACTED]  
Assistant Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT: Intelligence Definitions and Charter Legislation

1. Thanks for providing me with copies of your Working Group's papers on definitions. I note in the most recent minutes for the 21 March 1978 meeting, you anticipated that the material on definitions will be forwarded to the Director for subsequent transmittal to NFIB members by 31 March 1978.

2. As we have discussed previously, we are involved in a long-range program to review and develop positions on the Intelligence Charter Legislation, including those provisions containing definitions of intelligence terms. We will be reviewing the final product of your Working Group in this context. I think it is appropriate that the Working Group's definitions be presented to the Director, NFIB members and others with the understanding that they will be considered and conceivably may have to be modified during the process of developing positions on the Intelligence Charter Legislation. Perhaps language along the following lines could be included in the transmittal and cover papers for the Working Group's definitions:

"These definitions will be reviewed in the context of developing positions on the Intelligence Charter Legislation and to make them compatible with the Legislation and Intelligence Committees views thereon, some modifications may have to be made."

I will be glad to discuss this with you further.

[REDACTED]  
Assistant Legislative Counsel

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Branches and by law to protect sources and methods, the Director of Central Intelligence and heads of departments and agencies of the United States involved in intelligence activities shall:

3-401. Keep the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate fully and currently informed concerning intelligence activities, including any significant anticipated activities which are the responsibility of, or engaged in, by such department or agency. This requirement does not constitute a condition precedent to the implementation of such intelligence activities;

3-402. Provide any information or document in the possession, custody, or control of the department or agency or person paid by such department or agency, within the jurisdiction of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives or the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, upon the request of such committee; and

3-403. Report in a timely fashion to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate information relating to intelligence activities that are illegal or improper and corrective actions that are taken or planned.

### SECTION 4

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### 4-1. *Implementation.*

4-101. Except as provided in section 4-105 of this section, this Order shall supersede Executive Order 11905, "United States Foreign Intelligence Activities," dated February 18, 1976; Executive Order 11985, same subject, dated May 13, 1977; and Executive Order 11994, same subject, dated June 1, 1977.

4-102. The NSC, the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General and the Director of Central Intelligence shall issue such appropriate directives and procedures as are necessary to implement this Order.

4-103. Heads of agencies within the Intelligence Community shall issue appropriate supplementary directives and procedures consistent with this Order.

4-104. The Attorney General shall have sole authority to issue and revise procedures required by section 2-201 for the activities of the FBI relating to foreign intelligence and counterintelligence.

4-105. Where intelligence activities under this Order are to be conducted pursuant to procedures approved or agreed to by the Attorney General, those activities may be conducted under terms and conditions of Executive Order 11905 and any procedures promulgated thereunder until such Attorney General procedures are established. Such Attorney General procedures shall be established as expeditiously as possible after the issuance of this Order.

4-106. In some instances, the documents that implement this Order will be classified because of the sensitivity of the information and its relation to national security. All instructions contained in classified documents will be consistent with this Order. All procedures promulgated pursuant to this Order will be made available to the Congressional intelligence committees in accordance with Section 3-402.

4-107. Unless otherwise specified, the provisions of this Order shall apply to activities both within and outside the United States, and all references to law are to applicable laws of the United States, including the Constitution and this Order. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to apply to or interfere with any authorized civil or criminal law enforcement responsibility of any department or agency.

4-2. *Definitions.* For the purposes of this Order, the following terms shall have these meanings:

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unauthorized persons information derived from telecommunications of the United States Government related to national security and to ensure the authenticity of such telecommunications.

4-202. *Counterintelligence* means information gathered and activities conducted to protect against espionage and other clandestine intelligence activities, sabotage, international terrorist activities or assassinations conducted for or on behalf of foreign powers, organizations or persons, but not including personnel, physical, document, or communications security programs.

4-203. *Electronic Surveillance* means acquisition of a nonpublic communication by electronic means without the consent of a person who is a party to an electronic communication or, in the case of a nonelectronic communication, without the consent of a person who is visibly present at the place of communication, but not including the use of radio direction finding equipment solely to determine the location of a transmitter.

4-204. *Employee* means a person employed by, assigned to, or acting for an agency within the Intelligence Community.

4-205. *Foreign Intelligence* means information relating to the capabilities, intentions and activities of foreign powers, organizations or persons, but not including counterintelligence except for information on international terrorist activities.

4-206. *Intelligence* means foreign intelligence and counterintelligence.

✓ 4-207. *Intelligence Community and agency or agencies within the Intelligence Community* refer to the following organizations:

- (a) The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA);
- (b) The National Security Agency (NSA);
- (c) The Defense Intelligence Agency;
- (d) The Offices within the Department of Defense for the collection of specialized national foreign intelligence through reconnaissance programs;
- (e) The Bureau of Intelligence and Research of the Department of State;
- (f) The intelligence elements of the military services, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Department of the Treasury, the Department of Energy, and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA); and
- (g) The staff elements of the Office of the Director of Central Intelligence.

4-208. *Intelligence product* means the estimates, memoranda and other reports produced from the analysis of available information.

4-209. *International terrorist activities* means any activity or activities which:

- (a) involves killing, causing serious bodily harm, kidnapping, or violent destruction of property, or an attempt or credible threat to commit such acts; and
- (b) appears intended to endanger a protectee of the Secret Service or the Department of State or to further political, social or economic goals by intimidating or coercing a civilian population or any segment thereof, influencing the policy of a government or international organization by intimidation or coercion, or obtaining widespread publicity for a group or its cause; and

(c) transcends national boundaries in terms of the means by which it is accomplished, the civilian population, government, or international organization it appears intended to coerce or intimidate, or the locale in which its perpetrators operate or seek asylum.

4-210. *The National Foreign Intelligence Program* includes the programs listed below, but its composition shall be subject to review by the National Security Council and modification by the President.

- (a) The programs of the CIA;
- (b) The Consolidated Cryptologic Program, the General Defense Intelligence Program, and the programs of the offices within the Department of

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Defense for the collection of specialized national foreign intelligence through reconnaissance except such elements as the Director of Central Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense agree should be excluded;

(c) Other programs of agencies within the Intelligence Community designated jointly by the Director of Central Intelligence and the head of the department or by the President as national foreign intelligence or counterintelligence activities;

(d) Activities of the staff elements of the Office of the Director of Central Intelligence.

(e) Activities to acquire the intelligence required for the planning and conduct of tactical operations by the United States military forces are not included in the National Foreign Intelligence Program.

4-211. *Physical surveillance* means an unconsented, systematic and deliberate observation of a person by any means on a continuing basis, or unconsented acquisition of a nonpublic communication by a person not a party thereto or visibly present thereat through any means not involving electronic surveillance. This definition does not include overhead reconnaissance not directed at specific United States persons.

4-212. *Special activities* means activities conducted abroad in support of national foreign policy objectives which are designed to further official United States programs and policies abroad and which are planned and executed so that the role of the United States Government is not apparent or acknowledged publicly, and functions in support of such activities, but not including diplomatic activity or the collection and production of intelligence or related support functions.

4-213. *United States*, when used to describe a place, includes the territories of the United States.

4-214. *United States person* means a citizen of the United States, an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, an unincorporated association organized in the United States or substantially composed of United States citizens or aliens admitted for permanent residence, or a corporation incorporated in the United States.



THE WHITE HOUSE,  
January 24, 1978.

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EDITORIAL NOTE: The President's statement and remarks of Jan. 24, 1978, on signing Executive Order 12036, are printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 14, No. 4).